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FIFTH DAY.—*17th June 1927.*

Before the other business of the day was taken up, MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA said that a large number of members had given notice of a special resolution in the matter of a certain recent Government Order, and solicited permission to discuss it.

MESSRS. G. PARAMASIVIAH and D. S. MALLAPPA added that the members feared that the interests of a large section of His Highness' subjects would be adversely affected by the Government Order referred to, and requested that whether the resolution was going to be accepted or not, opportunity might be given at least to discuss the matter.

THE DEWAN replied that the resolution had not been admitted but that opportunity might be taken to discuss the matter threadbare in connection with the resolutions already included in the Agenda on the same question.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH siad that if the special resolution was admitted, he was prepared to withdraw one of the other resolutions bearing on the subject.

THE DEWAN replied that he was not prepared to bargain to that effect and that the decision already given was final and would not be reconsidered in the best interests of all concerned.

Questions and answers were then taken up for half an hour.

## Resolutions on the Budget.

*Resolution No. 1.*

MR. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the grant for drinking water wells may be raised to 1 lakh of rupees."

In moving the above resolution MR. MALLIAH said that the allotment for drinking water wells was Rs. 50,000 for the whole State which worked out at about Rs. 3 per village. On account of the failure of rains, there was difficulty about drinking water and the amount of grant in the Budget

was quite inadequate. For want of sufficient funds, there were no less than 120 incomplete wells in the Mysore District alone, even though the raiyats' share of the work had been done. A sum of Rs. 25,000 was due to the District Board being the arrears of Government contribution for works already executed and even this was not paid. He was of opinion that provision for drinking water wells should be the first charge on the State revenues and that it was necessary to increase the allotment by another Rs. 50,000.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA, in seconding the resolution, observed that the amount provided was not even as much as in the previous year. Hook-worm, dysentery, cholera and several other diseases to which the helpless raiyats were always liable, were all attributable mainly to the want of pure drinking water. For this reason he said that it was urgently necessary to provide something more than in previous years for drinking water wells.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL explained that though the provision under drinking water wells was only Rs. 50,000, there was another sum of Rs. 57,000 provided for the purchase of well-boring machinery, so that the total grant in connection with such wells was really a lakh and seven thousand rupees. This was therefore even more than the amount asked for in the resolution. He added that Government realized the need for a larger provision but that no enhanced grant was now possible. Government would be prepared to accept the resolution if the words "as far as possible" were substituted for "to one lakh of rupees."

MR. MALLIAH, not agreeing to modify the resolution as suggested, pressed it to a division.

The resolution was thereupon put to vote and carried.

*Resolution No. 2.*

MR. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the grant for Village Panchayats may be raised to two lakhs of rupees."

In doing so, he said that the provision of Rs. 50,000 made in the Budget for 7,000 panchayats so far constituted was quite inadequate. He did not think it was possible for the Panchayats to show any progress with such a nominal grant. The Panchayats were entrusted with too many duties and responsibilities already, and it was a problem for them

to find the required funds more especially as they could not expect to get any large amount by way of taxes and cesses which they were empowered to levy under the new Regulation. If, therefore, he said, adequate funds were not provided in the State Budget for Village Panchayats, the people would be obliged to think that the Government effected the recent changes, under cover of an extended system of local self-government, with a view solely to shirk their own financial responsibilities. Grants of Rs. 30,000 made in the previous years for village improvement had lapsed to Government year after year and he requested that at least the total of such lapsed amounts might be granted for village improvement.

MR. D. S. MALLAPPA seconded the resolution.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL, in replying, said that the total amount provided for village improvements was Rs. 1,62,000 and not Rs. 50,000 as stated by the mover of the resolution. One point in favour of Village Panchayats was that in future, unspent balances would not lapse as in the past but would be credited to them. The whole of the sanctioned grant of Rs. 1,30,000 was not used in the current year as the establishments required were appointed late in the year. The unspent balance of about one lakh was available, and this together with Rs. 1,62,000 came to more than Rs. 2½ lakhs against only Rs. 2 lakhs asked for in the resolution. The improvement of villages was a measure of great importance and the question of allotting adequate grants for it would be considered as funds became available.

MR. MALLIAH observed that the grant for village improvements should not include establishment charges.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that this was not possible, as establishments were necessary for supervision.

MR. MALLIAH differed from this view. Merely because an official inspected the villages and made suggestions from time to time, it did not stand to reason that his salary should be met from the grant for village improvement. At the time of the introduction of the Village Panchayats' Bill in the Representative Assembly, Government had given hopes that the Panchayats, when brought into existence, would be provided with funds to the necessary extent. On the same occasion the Assembly had also passed a resolution to the effect that the income from *amarai* and *hulbanni* should be ear-marked for the Panchayats concerned. Under such circumstances it was not

right to say that funds would be provided whenever possible. He therefore pressed the resolution to a division.

The resolution was then put to vote and passed.

*Resolution No. 3.*

MR. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the grant for the restoration of minor tanks may be raised to three lakhs of rupees."

He observed that minor tanks were the mainstay of the people and that out of the 16,000 tanks in the State, at least 13,000 were in a state of disrepair. He asked how far the amount provided, *viz.*, Rs. 1,00,000 could go in the direction of restoring them.

THE DEWAN replied that the department found it difficult to spend more money as the work of repairing minor tanks here and there was always attended with practical difficulties. He assured the member that if more funds became necessary, Government would be too glad to provide the same out of the Irrigation Cess Fund.

MR. MALLIAH said that if there was money, Government might as well accept the resolution. He thought that at least the works for which the people paid the contribution, should be taken in hand without delay.

MR. VEMA REDDY in seconding the resolution brought to notice that the delay was in most cases due not so much for the reason mentioned by the Dewán as for prompt sanction not being accorded to the estimates. He suggested that all estimates should be approved and work taken in hand before the month of August each year.

MR. SIDDE GOWDA *alias* APPAJI GOWDA referred to the large number of tanks which had been left in various stages of restoration for a long number of years with the result that the expenditure already incurred on them ran to waste, the tanks having been completely silted up. The Revenue officers, however, continued to levy wet assessment from the raiyats without reference to the state of the tanks and the remission applications from raiyats had not been viewed with favour of in practically all cases.

THE DEWAN replying to the above observations said that the work in the coming years would show appreciable progress.

With reference to the question of remission, THE THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL added that the case of breached

tanks even under the existing orders, the local officers were empowered to grant remission of half the assessment due.

MR. B. SRINIVASIENGAR of Anekal suggested that the works should not be taken up at random and that projects for all taluks should be ready with reference to the programme sanctioned by Government.

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR observed that the present slow progress under tank works was mainly due to the fact that the Public Works Department was already burdened with road works and other similar works and that it was impossible for it to show adequate attention to the tank works.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER explained that the anxiety of Government for restoring as many tanks as possible was apparent from the fact that increased allotments under tank works were made every year. The trouble in the past was largely due to want of contractors coming forward to take up petty works.

MR. B. SRINIVASIENGAR of Anekal observed that there was now a keen competition among them and any number of contractors were prepared to take up contracts.

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR also agreed in this view. He suggested that it was possible to show substantial improvement if a Sub-Overseer was appointed to each taluk, entrusted with the duty of inspecting the sluices at regular intervals, submitting reports as soon as any of them had to be repaired, etc. A certain amount of contingent amount should also be given to each Sub-Overseer.

MR. RAMAKRISHNA IYER of Haralukunte (Kolar District) referred to the Haralukunte Chickakere and said that while the people had been representing to the Government for a number of years regarding the raising of the weir and restoring the tank, no work had up to date been done. The difficulty of the raiyats was aggravated by the fact that they had been compelled to pay their quota of the cost.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA observed that something was wrong with the working of the department. There was no difficulty in getting contractors for any work on plantations, and it was strange that only for Government works contractors were not available.

MR. SIDDALINGA DEVARU suggested that the Inspectors of Village Panchayats might be instructed to inspect the tanks at periodical intervals and submit a list of tanks requiring attention.

THE DEWAN said that he hoped that there would be no room for any complaint by the time the members met again for the October Session.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM IYENGAR suggested that for each taluk one or two Overseers should be appointed and that any one who did not spend the sanctioned allotments should be made to show sufficient cause therefor, due notice being taken if it was due to his own negligence or inability. He observed that it was very unsatisfactory that the sanctioned grants had lapsed in all the districts other than Kolar, Chitaldrug and Kadur.

MR. VEMA REDDY considered that all complaints would cease if estimates were sanctioned without delay. There was no need to provide Overseers or Sub-Overseers for every taluk, but in his opinion some additional hands were necessary for surveying and preparing projects.

A Member from Sorab brought to notice that the raiyats had paid contribution 32 years ago for the restoration of the Monnukattekere in Bommarasi Koppalu in Sorab Taluk but that the work had not even been included in the programme recently sanctioned by Government.

Another Member referred to the inordinate delay that had occurred in the matter of restoring the Arahapura Tank in Holehonnur Hobli of the Shimoga District.

THE DEWAN promised to enquire into the above cases.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH said that even though the raiyats paid their contribution promptly, the delay occurred generally in countersigning the estimates and observing other formalities, and that there was no difficulty in securing labour or contractors.

As the resolution was pressed to a division, it was put to vote and passed.

*Resolution No. 4.*

MR. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the grant for the backward class scholarships may be raised to two lakhs of rupees."

In doing so, he represented that this was not the first time that such a resolution was brought forward before the Assembly, that a similar resolution moved in the Budget Session of 1926 was accepted in principle by Government who promised to consider the matter sympathetically and increase the grant as funds permitted, that the number of pupils in the High School classes belonging to the backward communities was only 1,600 out of the total strength of

3,669 pupils and that this number was by no means adequate considering that the total population of the backward classes came to 58 lakhs. The reason for the smallness of the number he thought was that the High Schools and Middle Schools were located in cities and towns and that it was difficult for the poor boys from the villages to resort to them on account of the high cost of living there.

He further represented that a review of the number of applications received from the pupils for these scholarships went to show the pressing demand for increasing the grant considerably. So far as the High School grades were concerned as many as a thousand applications for scholarships had to be rejected for want of provision. He appealed to Government to enhance the scholarship grants from year to year and aim at providing at least 10 per cent of the people in the rural areas with High School education. He added that it was not a right policy to give all advantage to the people in the cities and ignore the claims of the rural population.

MR. H. C. DASAPPA in supporting the resolution said that the percentage of literacy had increased as a result of the scholarship scheme. He added that the number of applicants for the scholarships had gone up five-fold but the allotment of funds remained stationary. Taking the case of a single community like the Lingayets, he said that only 10 out of 125 applicants secured scholarships during the last year. He, therefore, requested that the grant might be enhanced to Rs. 2 lakhs in the next year's Budget.

MR. NAGANNA SETTY requested that pupils coming from charitable instructions like the Doddanna School should invariably be treated as free students and given scholarships.

MESSRS. VEMA REDDY, NANJAPPA and SIDDALINGA DEVARU said that many deserving students of the backward communities were denied the benefits of higher education owing to the limited funds made available to the authorities concerned. Taking the case of a taluk headquarter town like Channapatna where 75 per cent of the pupils belonged to the backward classes, MR. SIDDEGOWDA pointed out that each class was getting not more than 4 or 5 scholarships. Even now, he said, though the High Schools were opened 10 days back, several boys were hesitating to secure admission as there was no certainty of their getting the benefit of the scholarships. It was no exaggeration to say, he added, that even a raiyat who had an annual income of Rs. 1,000

could not afford to send his son to a town and meet the cost of education.

MR. B. S. RANOJI RAO pointed out that the present system of grouping together certain minority communities for purposes of the scholarship scheme defeated the laudable object of the Government since no one pupil got the scholarship without break, with the result that several boys had to go without completing their education. The boys very often found themselves stranded when the scholarship was snatched away from them during the second year's course for being awarded to a new candidate of another minor community. He therefore prayed that each minority community might be treated independently for purposes of the award of scholarships.

MESSRS. GURUMURTIACHAR and G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR also strongly supported this view.

MR. DODDAIYA represented that the backward class pupils were generally poverty sticken and could not take to education unless they were encouraged with scholarships. He quoted from the Dewan's speech of 1926 acknowledging that the depressed classes also formed a link in the chain of communities forming His Highness' subjects and prayed that that link should be strengthened.

THE THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL explained that Government were conscious of the demand that existed for enhancing the scholarship grant and that if extra grant could be given, it would be money well spent. But he thought that there should be a limit up to which Government could be expected to extend their helping hand. They had now granted Rs. 1·50 lakhs and if anything more was possible, it would certainly be done.

MR. B. C. RANGAPPA pleaded for the institution of special scholarships for the Kaniyar community pupils.

Some of the members complained against the personnel of the existing *Adhoc* committees.

In replying to the observations of the Third Member of Council, MR. S. C. MALLIAH regretted that though Government were profuse in their expressions of sympathy, the provision made in the Budget showed that they did not act up to their promises. About fixing a time limit for continuing the grant for backward class scholarships, Mr. Malliah said that it should be continued till the percentage of literacy in the villages reached an adequate figure, seeing that most of the general revenues came from the raiyats' contribution.

The resolution was then put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 5 which read as follows was withdrawn by the mover MR. S. C. MALLIAH:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the grant for primary education may be raised to fifteen lakhs of rupees."

*Resolution No. 6.*

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly strongly recommends to Government the immediate necessity for appointing a mixed committee to enquire into and report on the scope for effecting retrenchments in the expenditure of the administration of the State with a view to much larger grants being made available for carrying out development works on a nation-wide scale and to render the overburdened tax-payers, the long overdue relief by means of reduction in taxation."

In moving the above resolution, MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO drew the attention of the Assembly to a similar resolution moved by him last year, on which the Government promised that the matter would be referred to the Standing Committee. He was of opinion that unless new sources of revenue were found out, it was impossible to reduce the burdensome taxation on the people and to carry on the administration. The only ways in which a reduction of expenditure could be possible were drastic retrenchments and economy of expenditure. There was no doubt that about 6 years ago Government appointed a Special Finance Committee. During the period that elapsed since then, various changes had taken place and time had come for appointing a similar committee over again.

In the first place, he said that the State had not many educated people in the past and Government had to employ foreigners at the price demanded by them. At the present time, there was the Mysore University and no dearth of educated people. There was also no reason why the former high scale of pay should be repeated in the case of local people who would only be too glad to do patriotic service to the State on a much lower scale of pay. He appealed to the Dewan as the patriotic son of the soil to set a noble example by consenting to reduce his own pay.

This, he thought, would be followed up by the other officers of the State.

The next consideration was whether the State required as many high officers as there were at present. He was of opinion that the work of Government had been sufficiently systematised and that there was no need for such an army of officers. He thought that appointments like those of the Revenue Commissioner, Director of Industries and one of the Secretaries to Government might, with advantage, be abolished.

In regard to the Secretariat, he said that formerly there were 15 Superintendents and that the Committee suggested a reduction to 10. There were now 13 Superintendents, which, in his opinion, were not absolutely necessary for the secretariat work. The people had the impression that retrenchment was effected in one quarter and expenditure raised in another. This state of things, he thought, should be put an end to. As an example, he said, that while the Assembly and the Legislative Council wanted a reduction in the strength of the Executive Council and the appointment of a non-official thereto, the Government not only increased its strength but also appointed a Civilian thereto. All these things, he said, would be set right if the whole position were considered by a special committee as suggested by him and action taken on their recommendations.

MR. S. LINGAPPA of Chicknaikanahalli seconded the above resolution.

In supporting the resolution, MR. B. NARASINGA RAO observed that the Budget was lacking in important principles and that it could not be called a surplus Budget by any means, since the Reserves were drawn upon to the extent of Rs. 15 lakhs for purposes of meeting the normal expenditure. He added that the former Financial Secretary had prescribed a minimum limit of Rs. 75,00,000 as the working balance of the State and it was rather discouraging to find it dwindled down to Rs. 63 lakhs according to the Budget figures.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL stated that they were means raising the Treasury balance to the required level and that the figure of Rs. 63 lakhs did not point to any weakness in the cash position.

MR. B. NARASINGA RAO remarked that in any case he could not help contradicting the fact that the Budget produced before the Assembly was a surplus one.

Referring to the future liabilities in the shape of capital outlay MR. NARASINGA RAO pointed out that Government

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had to provide about Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 crores during the next few years for the Krishnarajasagara works alone. One of the main objects with which a committee was suggested by the mover of the resolution was to explore all possible avenues for effecting savings and to devise ways and means of enhancing the revenues of the State. This work could be undertaken only by a committee of specialists as contemplated in the resolution. It was also time, he said, to reconsider certain recommendations of the Special Finance Committee who had recommended retrenchments to the extent of Rs. 35 lakhs, some of which had not been given effect to.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that Government had effected savings to the extent of Rs. 45 lakhs.

MR. NARASINGA RAO contended that the cost of establishment had again been allowed to go up, and that unless substantial savings were effected in expenditure, it would be impossible for Government to balance the Budget in future years.

Referring to the statement of the Second Member of Council that Government had, as a result of the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee, effected retrenchments to the extent of Rs. 45 lakhs, MR. C. NARASIMHAIYA drew the attention of the Assembly to the fact that when the State revenue under the principal heads was Rs. 273 lakhs in 1925-26, the direct demands on the same amounted to about Rs. 47¾ lakhs but when the same revenue dwindled down to the present level of Rs. 261 lakhs, during the Budget year, the expenditure was estimated at Rs. 48½ lakhs.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL explained that because there was a fall in the revenues in one particular year it was not possible to cut down expenditure on establishments which were necessary for normal administration.

MR. C. NARASIMHAIYA emphasised the point that during the years of prosperity Budgets, the expenditure had remained at a lower level while during the present lean years, the cost on account of salaries was allowed to go up. He thought that it was possible to abolish the posts of the Financial Secretary, the Revenue Commissioner and of one of the Executive Councillors.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM IYENGAR, in further supporting the resolution, pointed out that the entire State of Mysore equalled only two districts of the Madras Presidency, Tanjore and Trichinopoly, in point of extent. But he

said that there was a wide gulf in point of expenditure. While there were but 2 Collectors, 4 Sub-Collectors and a few Deputy Collectors, in those two districts there were several Heads of Departments, 8 Deputy Commissioners, several Assistant Commissioners, a number of Secretaries to Government, Assistant Secretaries etc., to administer a tract similar in extent. Thus the administration of Mysore was top-heavy. It was surprising that the tendency of Government was to still further increase establishment charges as was evident from the recent orders instituting a Civil Service Examination during November. In spite of the numerous officers, the Government, he said, could not lay claim to have raised the economic position of the masses. In this connection, he invited the attention of Government to the high ideals expressed in the Dewan's Address of June 1926, *viz.*, "Just as Mysore is for Mysoreans, Mysoreans should be for Mysore," and exhorted the high placed officers not to stint sacrificing some of their amenities in the interests of the State.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that the mover of the resolution seemed to be under the impression that there was ample scope for reduction in the cost of establishment, and that the proposed committee was sure to effect savings to the extent of many lakhs which could be used for allowing a large reduction of taxes and also for undertaking development works on a large scale. This impression he said, was not correct. He stated that, not long ago, the Special Finance Committee had examined this question very fully and that most of their recommendations had been given effect to. If some of the old appointments had been revived, he said, it was because there was need for them, and he assured the Assembly that whenever there was a possibility of reducing establishments, Government would effect economies but that there was no scope for any wholesale reduction. If drastic retrenchments were resorted to, the result would be impairing the efficiency of the administration. He did not therefore think that the proposed committee would be able to suggest any large retrenchments. Government were always alive, he said, to the need for keeping down expenditure as much as possible and this point was made clear in the Dewan's Address. In these circumstances, he said that no useful purpose would be served by appointing a committee of the kind proposed.

MR. GURUMURTIACHAR assured the Government that

the object of Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao in moving the resolution was not to retard the progress of administration but to help it to enable Government to improve the economic condition of the State as a whole.

MR. S. N. M. RAZVI pointed out that there was no conflict of interest between the ruler and ruled in Mysore, that whether officials or non-officials they were all Mysoreans first and it behoved them to work together for the general welfare of the State. In the interests of the future financial stability of the State, he suggested that the officers drawing a salary of one thousand rupees and more might be induced to surrender a portion of their salary and requested the Dewan to set an example in this respect. If this was done, he said there might be no need to appoint a special committee as proposed by the mover of the resolution.

MR. H. R. T. RAJAGOPALA MUDALIAR speaking in support of the resolution dwelt at length at the poverty of the average raiyat and his inability to meet the cost of educating his children and said that Government should leave no stone unturned to find the wherewithal for the economic development of the State. Now that the Mysore University graduates were available in large numbers for employment on a reduced scale of pay, he suggested a general lowering of the salaries and making them applicable in the case of all new recruits to the Government service. He added that there was a persistent demand from the Assembly for increased grants under each head of the Budget and that it would be impossible to satisfy this demand unless drastic retrenchments were effected in every direction.

In regard to the allotment for rural reconstruction and other public improvements, he criticised the policy of concentrating attention on big cities to the detriment of smaller towns. He requested the provision of a suitable grant for the Hunsur water supply scheme which was very urgent.

Referring to the Second Member's remark that there was not sufficient data for the proposed committee to proceed upon, MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR pointed to the present deficit Budget and the imperative need to get over such deficits in future years. He was of opinion that to achieve that end no sacrifice would be too great. It was high time, he said, that Government began to so cut short their expenditure on administration as to keep it well within their budgetted revenue. In his opinion, it was necessary to abandon all unproductive works and to limit the grants, at least for some years to come, on big projects.

He next reviewed in detail the position of the finances during the regimes of the former Dewans and expressed his surprise at the present difficulty to balance the Budget in spite of the fact that the general revenue had increased by more than a crore of rupees. In his opinion, this situation was brought about mainly for want of a continuity of policy in the administration and commended for adoption the scheme laid down by Sir Albion Banerji in respect of keeping the Reserves intact and reducing the charges under administration.

He added that Government should not lose sight of the fact that the income from the mining revenue and the Civil and Military Station surplus was not of a permanent nature and that they could not always rely on the income from the railways, electric and other capital works. He therefore thought that the financial position could only be improved by keeping down the normal expenditure.

In regard to the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee, he pointed out that while Government readily agreed to reduce the salary of the Chief Judge, they failed to do the same in the case of the Councillors. He also pointed out that it was quite possible to reduce the staff of the Director of Industries and Commerce in view of the circumscribed activities of that department.

In conclusion he said that Government should aim at bringing down the level of taxation in the State and should not attempt to copy the Government of India in this matter.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO, in replying to the criticisms made by Government, observed that his task of replying to them was rendered easy by the members of the Assembly every one of whom was in full sympathy with his object. In regard to the observation that the proposed committee could not be expected to effect substantial savings under administrative heads, he said that even if their labours resulted in the savings of a few thousands of rupees, it was sure to go a long way in a country where the earning capacity of the citizen was so low as 2 annas. Government had been faced with the bugbear of financial stringency for some years past and the Special Finance Committee of 1923 did not succeed in finding a proper solution for it and their recommendations were very modest. He was convinced, he said, that there was still a large scope for lessening the expenditure and to increase the revenues, and he assured Government that if his suggestion to appoint a committee was accepted, a sum of Rs. 4 or 5 lakhs could be saved every year.

He earnestly believed that it was quite possible to reduce the cost on district administration by combining together certain districts and reducing the number from 8 to at least 6. He was sure that this would in no way affect the efficiency of district administration.

He emphasised the fact that there was a general disapproval of the present policy of drawing upon the Reserves; that the Famine Insurance Fund was a sacred trust which could be drawn upon only under extraordinary circumstances, and prayed Government to keep these funds intact at least in the future years.

The resolution was then put to the vote and carried unanimously.

At this stage, the Assembly adjourned for lunch and re-assembled at 3-30 P.M.

*Resolution No. 7.*

"This Assembly considers that proportionate reduction by some fixed percentage is desirable and ought to be made immediately in the pay and travelling allowances of all officers drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 250 and above."

*Mover.*—MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO.

In moving the above resolution MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO said that the question might be referred to the committee suggested in the previous resolution.

THE DEWAN observed that the question of the constitution of a committee had not been agreed to by the Government, and asked whether Mr. Krishna Rao had any idea of the scale of pay in other Indian States.

MR. KRISHNA RAO replied that everywhere in India, the Indian States based the scales of pay on the British Indian system, and that if any comparison was necessary it should be made with the countries whose system of administration was similar to that of Mysore. But he asked why Mysore should copy other systems when it had to carve its own destiny. He said that the Mysore officers could be classed under 3 heads, *viz.*, those drawing Rs, 1,000 and above, those drawing between Rs. 500 and 1,000 and those drawing between Rs. 250 and Rs. 500, and that the total cost on account of those officers was about 30 lakhs of rupees. He thought that even if their pay was reduced by 10 per cent, the State would save as much as Rs. 3 lakhs. With these observations, he commended the resolution for favourable consideration.

MR. SOMASEKHARA RAO seconded the resolution.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM also was of opinion that the resolution might safely be referred to the committee suggested in the previous resolution. The condition precedent to the acceptance of a resolution of that kind by the officers was that they should be actuated by patriotic motives. He instanced the case of Japan where when the National Bank failed, every one from the prince down to the peasant went to its aid and helped to resuscitate it.

Referring to the statement made by the Second Member of Council, *viz.*, that much money could not be saved by the reduction of the salaries of officers, Mr. Bhashyam said that if only the higher officers would consent to forego a part of their pay and allowances, others would follow their example.

MR. RAMESWARA SASTRY of Sringeri said that the financial administration of a country was mainly based on the taxation levied from the people. In Mysore, he said, that such taxation was very heavy and every possible effort was therefore necessary to lighten it. It was just possible under the present circumstances, that the Government could meet their expenditure from the resources available, but it was necessary to see a little ahead and take all precautions against any possible fall in the revenue. In these circumstances, he thought that all available avenues for reduction of expenditure should be explored so that Government might not be embarrassed in future years.

MR. RAZVI wanted that the resolution ought to be amended so as to include all officers drawing more than Rs. 100. He was of opinion that if only the officers avoided luxurious living and were actuated by local patriotism, there would be absolutely no difficulty in limiting their own expenditure and foregoing a part of their pay for the sake of the State. If only the officers would make some sacrifice and travel in the third class instead of in the first or the second in the interests of the country, a very large amount could be saved to Government.

MR. SIDDALINGA DEVARU emphasised the fact that the prosperity of the ruled should be carefully looked after by the rulers. For the common good of the State both the rulers and the ruled should contribute their quota. Each section had its own responsibilities and duties to perform and one should not be antagonistic to the other. The ruled had not only taxed themselves to the maximum but were also rendering honorary service in many directions. The people had reached the limit of taxation and if the Government

were to insist upon paying more taxes, they would no doubt pay, but with very great discontent and difficulty. The present scale of salaries paid to the officers was fixed several years ago when the country was in a flourishing condition. Times had changed, prices of foodstuffs had gone up very high and the raiyat population found it very difficult to eke out their livelihood. With all that, they were compelled to pay their taxes. While such sacrifices were required of them, it was but right that the officers also should, in their turn, undergo some sacrifice.

It was everywhere said that the retrenchments ordered some years ago touched only the menial servants and lower subordinates without affecting the higher officers at all. While such was the case, it was but right that highly placed officers from the Dewan down to the officer drawing Rs. 250 should sympathise with the lot of the other people and consent to forego a part of their salary.

MR. G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR said that every one, whatever his income, had his own needs to satisfy. People who had spare money voluntarily came forward with donations for one purpose or another during the Dewan's tours. Similarly, the higher officers also should come forward with the same spirit of self-sacrifice on their part. If that were done in Mysore, it would serve as a model for other Governments to follow.

The resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

*Resolution No. 8.*

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO moved the following resolution: —

"This Assembly strongly recommends to Government the necessity for provision of necessary funds for effecting suitable improvements in the pay and allowances of the non-gazetted officers drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 and below."

In doing so, MR. KRISHNA RAO said that if the foundation was strong, the edifice would be substantial. In that view he thought that the lower officials being the foundation of the State service, their position should be strengthened. Referring to the Police constables and peons in the Government service, he said that unless they were paid at least a living wage, they could not live a contented life. The prices of foodstuffs had risen ten-fold while the

pay fixed for these appointments many years ago had remained the same. Under those circumstances, he thought it was no wonder that they had recourse to all kinds of temptation. He therefore appealed to Government to come to the relief of such poor officials by increasing their pay.

MR. RAJAGOPALA MUDALIAR in seconding the resolution said that the pay of teachers in the Educational Department should be enhanced immediately. He also represented that the pay of the Police constables and the Village Panchayat Inspectors required enhancement.

MR. SOMASEKHARA RAO represented that while the Government invariably interfered when there were dissentions between the employers and the employed in the mills, etc., it was but right to expect the self-same Government to see that their own employees got the living wage without outside influence. He also thought that the disparity between the pay of smaller officials and the officer at the head should be removed, as far as possible.

MR. G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR agreed with Mr. Rajagopala Mudaliar in his views and added that on account of the very inadequate pay given to the school masters in the villages, they did not pay proper attention to the education of boys. A lot of talk was heard in the Assembly about the corruption in the Sub-Registry Offices. In his opinion it was due to the fact that a living wage was not allowed to the officials who were required to work in the office both day and night. He thought that even a small increase to their pay would make them contended and discharge their duties better.

MR. VEMA REDDY doubted whether any increase of pay to the officials in the Sub-Registry Offices would prevent them from resorting to bribery. However, as the prices of necessaries of life had increased enormously and the officials found it difficult to make both ends meet, he supported the view that an increase to their pay was inevitable.

MR. VENKATASAMI GOWDA was also of the same opinion.

MR. E. KRISHNAPPA of Nanjangud observed that even the daily labourer earned more than an official in Government service and unless the latter's pay was enhanced, honest work could not be expected of him.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM observed that the disparity between the pay of the head of an office and the officials serving under him was very great with the result that smooth working would be difficult. He was of opinion that unless

the school masters were well paid and well equipped, it would be difficult for them to command any respect from the students coming from rich families.

MR. DODDAYYA who followed also supported the resolution.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that there was no difference of opinion in regard to the object with which the resolution was brought up, but on account of financial stringency, Government could not give effect to it. At the same time, he added that effect would be given to the intention of the resolution as far as possible as money became available.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO said that on the last occasion when a similar resolution was brought up, Government promised to consider the matter, but nothing had been done so far. He appealed to the Government to keep the scheme before them for gradual working, making at the same time a beginning somewhere. He also insisted that relief in the first instance might at least be given to the Police constables and peons.

The resolution was thereupon put to vote and passed unanimously.

*Resolution No. 9.*

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO moved the following resolution:—

"In view of the ever growing increase in the excise revenue being admittedly harmful to the moral and material interests of the people, this Assembly considers that the time has come for taking effective measures towards total prohibition and recommends to Government that as a first step in the direction, a small committee may be appointed to enquire into the cost of enforcing total prohibition and to suggest methods for meeting the revenue deficits from total prohibition."

In moving the above resolution, MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO said that his main object was to see that people were sober and led a moral life. In his opinion the crux of the matter was that Government were not willing to part with such a large amount of revenue that was realised from the Excise Department. He thought that any revenue made from demoralizing the people would not add to the prosperity of the country. The ideal of Government on the other hand should be to see that drunkenness was wiped out of the land and that the earning capacity of the people increased

thereafter. He represented that if total prohibition was not quite possible at the present moment, Government might at least work for the consummation of that ideal. For this reason, he thought that a small committee of officials and non-officials should be appointed to investigate how best drunkenness could be prohibited in Mysore. He also added that such resolutions were passed in almost every Legislative Council of British India. With these few observations, he commended the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

MR. GOPALACHAR of Thirthahalli seconded the resolution.

MR. G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR said that as far back as 1881, Mr. Rangacharlu expressed the view that if the people should prosper, the excise revenue should be reduced. He did not think that the mere closing down of a few shops here and a few there would remove drunkenness among the people. He had known instances in which even when shops had been closed, the revenue to Government did not appreciably decrease. He was of opinion that not until an organised effort was made to close down every shop would the desired result be achieved.

MR. KRISHNAMURTHIACHAR of Mulbagal, on the other hand, said that some labourers were so much accustomed to drink, that without it, they could do nothing. He did not therefore think that Government should interfere in the matter in any way.

MESSRS. VENKATASAMI SETTY and RAZVI were in favour of the resolution.

MR. VEMA REDDY said that the effect of the reduction of the strength of liquor was that where a man drank one dram before, he now drank 3 drams. He thought that the drink evil was not of recent origin although he agreed that it was in any case a very bad vice. In his opinion the only remedy against it was to reduce a large number of shops and to earmark the revenue derived from the Excise Department for the spread of education among the people who were habitually addicted to drink.

MR. CHIKCHENNANANJAPPA said that a more effective remedy against drinking was to dispose of date groves for cultivation. He brought to the notice of Government that darkhasts were not easily given and requested that they might be expedited.

MR. PATTABHIRAMASETTY, said that darkhasts for date groves took a very long time for disposal and difficulties

were raised on the ground of malki, etc., and requested that Government might pass needful orders to prevent such long delay.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that excise revenue was going down. Government had taken and are taking measures, *e.g.*, closing down shops, reducing the strength of liquor, for minimising the evil of drink. He added that it was not right to say that if the excise revenue was given up by Government the drink evil would disappear and that so long as it was there, it was necessary to adopt measures for controlling it.

In regard to date groves, he said that a large number of them had been released and made available for cultivation. He thought that the appointment of a committee would serve no useful purpose and that Government could not accept the resolution.

MR. DODDAIYA thought that instead of appointing a committee, the Village Panchayats might be entrusted with the work. If these bodies took pains to prohibit drinking within their jurisdiction, the evil could be eradicated to a very great extent. He thought that a circular to the Village Panchayats might be issued in the matter.

The resolution was thereupon put to vote and passed unanimously.

*Resolution No. 10.*

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly considers that the policy of drawing from Reserves for the current expenditure of the administration is neither sound nor desirable."

MR. RAZVI seconded it.

With reference to the objection raised against the practice of utilising the Reserves, THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that altogether Government had drawn a sum of Rs. 15,63,000 from the Reserves for expenditure during the year 1927-28. Out of that amount, a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs was intended for expenditure on tank restoration, Bhadravati Anicut and other irrigation works, and that amount was drawn from the Irrigation Capital Reserve, Interest on Famine Insurance Fund and Irrigation Cess Fund. He explained that that was not a new policy, but as Mr. Md. Abbas Khan had stated it was being followed for a number of years past.

The Irrigation Capital Reserve was built up for being

used for the construction of large irrigation works and the financing of the Bhadra anicut and connected works from this source could not be taken exception to. In fact, this had been the method of financing this project ever since it was undertaken. There could be no more effective means of insurance against famine than keeping the tanks in order. The Irrigation Cess Fund was intended for irrigation works. It would thus be seen that there could possibly be no objection to spending a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs on irrigation works of different kinds from these sources.

Then he referred to the Special Reserve for non-recurring expenditure. Whatever was saved was set apart as a Reserve to meet special demands which could not otherwise be provided for.

He quoted the following extract from the speech of Sir Basil Blackett in connection with the Government of India Budget:—

"This sum of Rs. 2·82 crores will be transferred in its entirety to Special Reserve so that the revised estimate for the current year will exhibit neither a revenue surplus nor deficit."

On page 26 of the Financial Secretary's memorandum, the objects for which this Reserve was proposed to be used are mentioned. It would be seen there from that most of the demands are of the nature to be met from a provision of this kind. Under these circumstances, he thought that the view expressed in the resolution was not correct.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO said that if the normal expenditure could not be met from normal revenues and recourse had to be had to the Reserves the proper course for Government should have been to show a deficit Budget.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the normal needs were provided for from normal revenues and special or urgent demands from Reserves which could be drawn upon for meeting such demands and that there was thus no deficit.

MR. L. VEMA REDDY said that the Famine Insurance Fund was meant as a safeguard against famine and that it was not good policy to wait till the famine actually came and take steps thereafter. In his opinion, the Reserves could be utilized for the prevention of famine.

The resolution was thereupon put to vote and passed by a majority.